

ABSTRACT

The invention provides biopolymer sponge tubes closed
5 at one end for use in surgery. The preferred biopolymer
is collagen. The biopolymer sponge tubes are prepared by
forming an aqueous dispersion of the biopolymer,
introducing the dispersion into tube-shaped moulds,
freezing the dispersion in the moulds to form a shaped,
10 aqueous dispersion, followed by freeze-drying the frozen
aqueous dispersion. The tubes are fitted over endoscopic
surgical staplers to provide improved sealing of stapled
tissues, especially for air-tight sealing in lung
resections.

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